

spiritual, and physical lives. Those students have gone on to contribute to our society in a variety of ways—as business leaders, educators, government officials, lawyers, doctors and nurses, and of course, the clergy.

From its single Georgian Revival building designed by noted architect Frederick H. Brooke, Virginia Episcopal School has grown to include 15 buildings on campus and eight athletic fields. Of historic note, Virginia Episcopal School became the South's first private prep school to integrate in 1967. In 1986, the school became one of the first all-male prep schools in the South to accept females as students.

There are 230 students enrolled for the 2015–16 academic year at Virginia Episcopal School. They come from a much wider area than those young men from Virginia who first walked through the doors of the original school in Lynchburg. Today's students have their homes in 20 states and foreign countries. As an important institution of learning in Virginia's Sixth Congressional District, I commend Virginia Episcopal School as it celebrates 100 years of work in developing students "Toward Full Stature," and I wish the school and its leaders much continued success in their worthy mission.

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE MISSION INTO BERLIN, GERMANY

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2015*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, September 29th marks the 25th anniversary of the last covert U.S. airborne reconnaissance mission flown into Berlin, Germany, by the U.S. Air Force aircrews affectionately known as the "Berlin for Lunch Bunch." From the beginning

of the Cold War, these aircrews flew combat reconnaissance missions within the Russian-controlled airspace of the Berlin access corridors and the Berlin Control Zone. From 1946 to 1990, these Airmen conducted over fifteen thousand unarmed reconnaissance flights, monitoring the massed forces of the Group Soviet Forces in Germany and the East German military. The highly modified aircraft flew low and slow over the many Soviet and East German military facilities, collecting photographic and other intelligence that provided NATO the indications and warning information necessary to prepare for a Central European war. Their accomplishments are truly part of our proud American and allied intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance history, and it is my honor to acknowledge their sacrifices for all of us.

Thank you, and well done "Berlin for Lunch Bunch!"

**JOHN GERMANY**

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2015*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary leader of the Tampa Bay community, John Germany. His remarkable career in public service and his many contributions to our community are worthy of recognition by all.

John Germany was born in 1923 in Plant City, Florida. As a young man, John Germany served his country in the U.S. Army as a tank commander during World War II. During the war, he led his platoon to the gates of the Ebensee concentration camp in Austria and helped liberate the camp. After the war, he graduated from Harvard Law School and returned to Florida to begin practicing law.

John Germany served as the Chief Legal Advisor for Legislative Affairs to Florida Gov-

ernor LeRoy Collins. During his tenure, he was an early and important supporter of establishing the University of South Florida and would later go on to serve as the Board of Trustees President. John Germany's critical role in founding the University of South Florida earned him the University Medallion for Community Service in 1966 and the President's Fellow Medallion in 2012. Today, the University of South Florida is an economic engine in our community and top research institution in the nation.

Not only has John Germany impacted the Tampa Bay community with this dedication to the law, he has also strengthened our community through his support of local organizations and his dedication to educating youth. In 1961, he was elected President of the Friends of the Library of Tampa-Hillsborough County. As President of the organization, he spearheaded efforts to fund and build a library in downtown Tampa which opened in 1966. In recognition of his role in founding the library, in 1999 it was named "The John F. Germany Library." His excellence in his legal work and commitment to community service earned him the 2006 Outstanding Lawyer Award by the Hillsborough County Bar Association, an award given to those who excel in the areas of law and community service. Even after learning of his cancer, John Germany donated \$100,000 to the library system that will continue to fund the John Germany Youth Reading Initiative into the future.

John Germany will be forever remembered as a leader in the Tampa Bay community who was passionate about the law and the advancing youth education. Born into the Greatest Generation and a leader in shaping our great City of Tampa, he was a true pillar in our community. On August 26th, 2015, he passed away at the age of 94. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in honoring John Germany for his lifelong service to the State of Florida.